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## Turner Mayor.

*Martis, vicesimo sexto die Januarii, 1668. Annoque Regni Regis CAROLI Secundi, Dei Grat', Angliæ, &c. vicesimo.*



**T**his Court having received often Complaints from many worthy Citizens, Merchants and Traders, that frequent the Burse or Royal Exchange of this City about their Affairs, Contracts and matters of Negotiation, of the great Inconveniencies arising to themselves, and the general Disorder to private Families, (which cannot be without bad effects to the publick State and Government of the City) by the late meeting and long tarrying of persons upon the said Exchange, beyond the Hours established by the Ordination and Usage of former times; which for meeting were at Noon by Eleven, and for departing at Twelbe of the clock; and at Nights, from Michaelmas to Lady-day at Five and Six, and from Lady-day to Michaelmas at Six and Seven; and a Bell used to be rung for warning to all persons to depart, and a certain Penalty appointed that was wont to be levied upon any that remained beyond those Hours: It being also observed to be the occasion that so great numbers (as are daily observed) do divert themselves to transact their Affairs, proper to the Exchange, in Taverns, Coffee-houses, and other places of common Entertainment; which, besides the too often ill Consequences thereof to particular men, doth considerably detract from the Face and Fulness of that eminent Concourse and Meeting, and concur with those great Distresses and Difficulties which the Divine Justice hath inflicted, and our own Folly and Iniquities have drawn upon us, to abate and diminish the ancient Splendour, Esteem and Honour of the City: It is upon due consideration hereof, and for sundry other good Reasons, thought fit and Ordered by this Court, That for the present, till the Royal Exchange be finished, and the City by Gods Blessing and Assistance farther recovered, the Noon-exchange may be continued at Gresham-house till Twelbe of the clock; and that at the said Hour, (whereof notice to be given by the Bell not used) or within half an hour after at the farthest, from and after the fourteenth day of February next, all Merchants, Tradersmen, Factors, Broakers, and the Servants of Merchants and Tradersmen, and all other persons concerned, shall withdraw themselves and depart from the said place, as they will avoid the Penalties already provided, or such other course as may reasonably and lawfully be taken, against the wilfull and refractory Offenders. And it is recommended to the right Honourable the Lord Mayor, to direct such means as his Lordship shall judge most effectual for the Execution of this Order.

Avery.

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